tures of tidiness such as collection of spillage of foodgrains, white washing and repairs of godowns, removal of shrubs, grass and other refuse from the depot premises, cleaning of drains etc. Periodic inspection are carried out regularly by the officers of different levels to ensure that each and every depot is maintained according to the prescribed check list.

Price of Rubber in Kerala

2230. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rubber growers in Kerala are not getting suitable price for their produce;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to explore new market for rubber in foreign countries for helping the rubber growers in getting a better price; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Medical Facilities to Beedi Workers

2231. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide special medical facilities to the beedi workers in the country who are suffering from leprosy; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are being worked out.

Retention of concession allowed to Book Publishers under the Income Tax Act

2232. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that concessions allowed to book publishers under section 80 QQ of the Income Tax Act have been withdrawn in the last year's Budget;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the National Council of Applied Economic Research had recommended in its report the retention of section 80 QQ or the rebate enjoyed under it by the publishers;

(c) whether it is also fact that the National Book Development Board had also recommended the continuation of this section 80;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the withdrawal of this section has been causing hardship to the publishers; and

(e) whether in view of the above, Government propose to extend section 80 QQ for a period of three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir, if the Hon'ble Member's Question relates to section 80 QQ.

(d) Some publishers have represented that the withdrawal of this section is causing some hardship to them. However, the benefit is availed of by only 1/5th of the total number of publishers as mentioned in the report of the National Council of Applied Economic Research for 1983. The report also says that this concession is availed of by the better off